

Serial No. 09/932,818

Amendment After Final dated September 17, 2003

In Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. ( currently amended) In a fluid treatment device of the type comprising a container, said container having a filter, and said container having first and second chambers, the improvement wherein:

a) said filter is positioned in said first chamber;

b) a connecting element is provided, said connecting element being configured for connecting said first chamber to said second chamber for permitting fluid to travel from said first chamber through said filter and into said second chamber ~~is provided;~~ i

c) a removable and replaceable cap is provided for said first chamber;

d) said removable and replaceable cap has a gear counter mechanism;

e) a ratchet indexing element is provided on said removable and replaceable cap for indexing said gear counter mechanism when said removable and replaceable cap is replaced

Serial No. 09/932,818

Amendment After Final dated September 17, 2003

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after said removable and replaceable cap has been removed;

f) said gear counter mechanism includes a gear having a sequentially changing visual color coding system for indicating the present status of the filter; and

g) said visual color coding system having at least two color changes;

h) said gear counter mechanism has at least two selective counter cycles as determined by the amount of filtration required by law pertaining to the required water purity;

i) said cap has a window for viewing said sequentially changing visual color coding system;

j) said removable and replaceable cap has a top and bottom; and

k) said ratchet indexing element includes a hub handle on the bottom of said cap for indexing when said cap is removed.

2. (cancelled)

Serial No. 09/932,818

Amendment After Final dated September 17, 2003

In Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2003

3(cancelled).

4(previously amended). A fluid treatment device as in claim 1, and wherein:

a) said visual color coding system includes green, yellow, and red color codes.

5(previously amended). A fluid treatment device as in claim 4, and wherein:

a) said green, yellow, and red color codes are in sequence starting with green and ending with red.

6(withdrawn). A fluid treatment device as in claim 1, 2, and including:

a) said at least two selective counter cycles include at least two ratchet wheels, and

b) a selective pawl follower for selecting one of said at least two ratchet wheels.

7-10(cancelled)

Serial No. 09/932,818

Amendment After Final dated September 17, 2003

In Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2003

11(withdrawn). In a fluid treatment device as in claim 1, 2,  
and wherein:

a) said gear counter mechanism includes said at least  
two selective counter cycles including at least two ratchet wheels;  
and

b) a selective pawl follower for selecting one of said  
at least two ratchet wheels.

12(cancelled).

13(withdrawn). In a fluid treatment device as in claim 11,  
and wherein:

a) said at least two ratchet wheels are stacked one on  
top of the other.

14(previously presented). In a fluid treatment device as in  
claim 1, and wherein:

a) said sequentially changing visual color coding  
system is arcuately positioned on said gear counter mechanism.

Serial No. 09/932,818

Amendment After Final dated September 17, 2003

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15(withdrawn). In a fluid treatment device as in claim 6, and wherein:

a) said gear counter mechanism includes a button release to provide shifting of said selective pawl follower from one of said at least two ratchet wheels to the other of said at least two ratchet wheels.